

F-8-79

Ca. 1750

"Lucky Discovery"

Woodsboro, Maryland

Private

The Frederick Musser House is a 2 story fieldstone and brick dwelling with a side gable roof. According to the owner, Dr. Frederick Musser, this house dates back to 1750. Several aspects remaining of the original fabric serve to date the building to the late eighteenth century including wattle and daub filling between the framing. The first story of the building is stone; the second story was originally brick. This appears to be a unique use of materials for the region. The interior plan was a central passage plan which had English precedents. The building, in its original form, was unusual in a region predominated by German architectural traditions. It was probably one of the earliest permanent structures built in the vicinity of Woodsboro.

F-8-79  
"Lucky Discovery"  
Woodsboro  
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont  
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery  
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:  
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:  
Domestic/single dwelling/residence  
Agricultural/Subsistence/agricultural outbuilding/barns,  
sheds

Known Design Source: None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Lucky Discovery

and/or common Frederick Musser House

## 2. Location

street & number 10328-B Woodsboro Road not for publicationcity, town Woodsboro vicinity of congressional district 6thstate Maryland county Frederick

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  X  </u> public	<u>  X  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>  X  </u> building(s)	<u>  </u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  X  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  X  </u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Frederick E. and Sarah Musser

street &amp; number 10328-B Woodsboro Road telephone no.:

city, town Woodsboro state and zip code Md. 21798

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 1457

street &amp; number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 471

city, town Frederick, state Md.

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date    federal    state    county    local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. F-8-79

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Frederick Musser House is a 2 story fieldstone and brick dwelling with a side gable roof that is situated approximately one-quarter of a mile off of Route 550 in the vicinity of Woodsboro, Maryland. The principal elevation faces north and is 5 bays in length. The property is composed of 100 acres and 8 domestic and agricultural outbuildings.

The first story is composed of uncoursed rubble fieldstone with heavy mortar; the second story is brick but has been sheathed in aluminum siding. The side gable roofline of composition shingling is widely pitched. Two interior end brick chimneys with three ceramic pots each sit on the ridgeline. Fenestration throughout the elevations consists of 6/6 replacement windows. The front facade has symmetrical openings with center door placement and 6/6 replacement windows. A two story porch with square columns covers the full facade. The second floor has a center door symmetrical to the first floor door allowing access to the porch. A two part addition extends from the rear (south) elevation: a 1 story stone section with a tall brick chimney, 1 bay wide and deep, has a gable roof of composition shingling running north to south; an aluminum sided section is approximately 28 years old and encloses a modern kitchen with an open deck extending from the back door. The east elevation includes the main block of the building and the two bays of the kitchen addition. It contains a side door into the basement that has a stone arch above its replacement. Both east and west elevations have 6/6 replacement windows positioned assymetrically.

The first floor of the interior was accessible for examination. The owner exposed aspects of the interior structure including wattle and daub between locust posts with horsehair plaster, brick nogging between locust posts and chestnut ceiling beams. The original flooring is chestnut. The basement reveals hand hewn beams, bark on the floor joists and a large stone fireplace. The owner made mention of his renovation activities in the early 1960s which required much of the original fabric to be replaced with new materials given the poor condition of the building.

Outbuildings on the property are mainly to the west of the main house. A 1 story springhouse lies to the east of the house and faces west. It is of fieldstone with frame gable ends of wide clapboards. Its gable roof is composed of standing seam tin. A corral of concrete block lies directly west of the house. A concrete shed with a standing seam roof built on a stone foundation is adjacent to the corral. A 1 story aluminum outbuilding also is aligned with the other buildings. A concrete barn with a gambrel roof of standing seam tin lies to the northwest of the main house. It has five 5 light fixed windows in a ribbon along its east elevation. Its principal facade faces north and contains a sliding door, louvered windows and a hood at the peak of the roofline. The eaves of the roof are flared. An arched window lies beneath the hood of the facade. The gambrel end is of clapboard. A 1 story concrete block dairy is attached to the barn at its south wall. A pond lies directly south of the house.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. F-8-79

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

According to the owner, Dr. Frederick Musser, this house dates back to 1750. The property associated with the house has been known as "Lucky Discovery", "Resurvey of Andrew's Chance" and "Smith's Plot". In 1873, the Titus Map shows J. Smith's heirs as owning the property; on the 1858 Bond Map, a J. Bostion resides on the property. A large number of contributing outbuildings reveal domestic and agricultural uses.

Although the property has been altered through renovations in the 1960s, several aspects remaining of the original fabric serve to date the building to the late eighteenth century including wattle and daub filling between the framing and horsehair plaster. The first story of the building is stone; the second story was originally brick. This appears to be a unique use of materials for the region. The interior plan was a central passage plan which had English precedents. The building, in its original form, was unusual in a region predominated by German architectural traditions. It also was probably one of the earliest permanent structures built in the vicinity of Woodsboro.

The property was most likely associated with agriculture from its beginnings although no original agricultural outbuildings remain. An early twentieth century dairy barn testifies to later agricultural pursuits that may have been more crop-oriented initially. A stone springhouse is probably the oldest outbuilding that may date to the house's origins.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-8-79

Interview with Dr. Frederick Musser, March 1991  
Atlas of Frederick County, Md. C.O. Titus & Co. Philadelphia, 1873  
Map of Frederick County, Isaac Bond, Baltimore 1838

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 94.95Quadrangle name Woodsboro, Md.Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Tas Map 42, Parcel 214

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Kendall Shipe, Historic Sites Surveyororganization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date April 1991street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958city or town Frederick state Md. 21701

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

# WOODSBOROUGH

## DIST No. 11

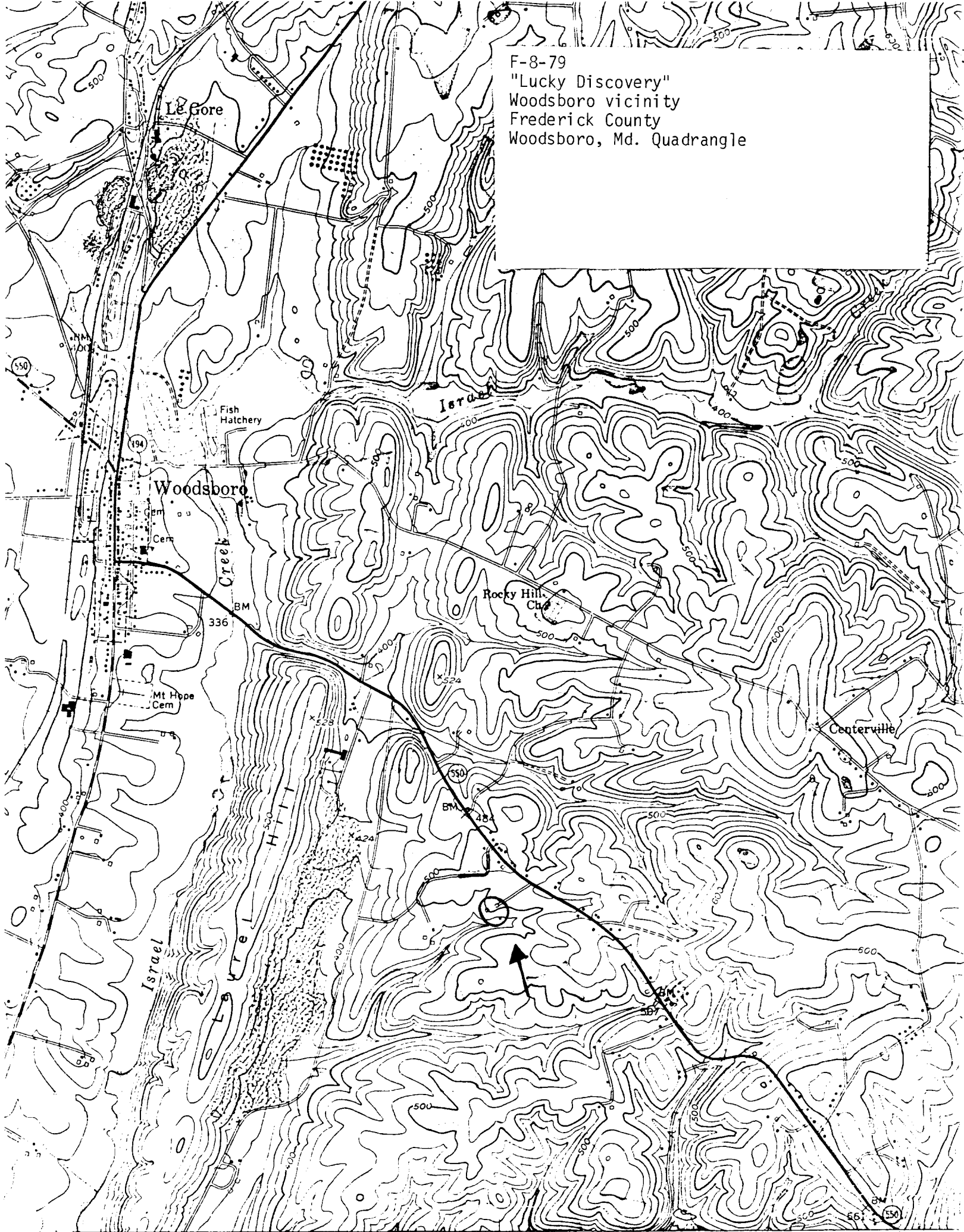
Scale 1 1/2 inches to the mile

The map is a detailed historical representation of Woodsborough, Maryland, and its surrounding areas. It is oriented with North at the top. The title 'WOODSBOROUGH' is prominently displayed at the top left, followed by 'DIST No. 11'. Below the title, a scale of '1 1/2 inches to the mile' is provided. The map shows the town of Woodsborough at the center, with the Monocacy River to the west and the Potomac River to the south. Numerous landowners and their holdings are labeled, including names like J. D. Stull, A. Long, Wm. Wise, and J. E. Tler. The map also shows various roads, bridges, and landmarks such as the Church of God and the School of the Holy Child. The map is oriented with North at the top, and the scale is 1 1/2 inches to the mile.

"Lucky Discovery"  
Woodsboro vicinity  
Frederick county

Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland  
C.O. Titus & Co. Philadelphia, 1873

F-8-79  
"Lucky Discovery"  
Woodsboro vicinity  
Frederick County  
Woodsboro, Md. Quadrangle







F-8-79

Lucky Discovery / Frederick Mutter Hse.

10328-B Woodsboro Rd.

Woodsboro Vicinity

Frederick CO.

Photo: Mary K. Shipe

Feb. 1991

Neg. 100. Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD.

East Elev.

1/4



F-8-79

Lucky Discovery / Frederick Mutter Hse,  
10328-B Woodsboro Rd.

Woodsboro Vicinity  
Frederick CO.

Photo: Mary K. Shipe

Feb. 1991

Neg. loc. Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD.

West Elev.

2/4



F-8-79

Lucky Discovery / Frederick Muster Hse -> Barn

10328-B Woodsboro Rd.

Woodsboro Vicinity

Frederick CO.

Photo: Mary K. Shipe

Feb. 1991

Neg. loc. Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD.

Dairy Barn / East Elev.

3/4



F-8-79

Lucky Discovery / Frederick Muttar Hse.

10328-B Woodsboro Rd.

Woodsboro Vicinity

Frederick Co.

Photo: Mary K. Shipe

Feb. 1991

Neg. rec. Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, MD.

Stone springhouse / South Elev.

4/41